

# "the color purple" by alice walker: critical analysis



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In Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*, Celie leads a life filled with abuse at the hands of the most essential men in her life. As a result of the females who surround and help her, Celie ends up being stronger and conquers the abuse she experienced. The 3 most prominent ladies in Celie's life are her sister Nettie, her daughter-in-law Sofia and the vocalist Shug Avery. These are the ladies who lead Celie out of her shell and assist her turn from a shy, withdrawn lady to somebody who was free to speak her mind and lead her own independent life.

Celie is inspired by her sister's self-reliance, decision and perseverance in Africa among foreign people whom Nettie appreciates deeply. Celie saw the impact that a woman could have on others and felt empowered to get rid of the abuse she experiences. Nettie is somebody that Celie tries to shelter from the physical and sexual abuse of their daddy. It is also Nettie who Celie aims to go to for education when her daddy pulls her out of school, and for assistance when she moves in with Mr.

\_\_\_\_ where she was abused by him and his children. When Nettie flees, Mr. \_\_\_\_ conceals the letters sent out to Celie consequently cutting off the sibling's interaction, which left them sad.

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" I sit here in this big empty house by myself trying to sew, but what good is sewing gon do? What good is anything? Being seem like a awful strain." [sic] (Walker 262). Upon discovering Nettie's letters, Celie finds a new desire to live because her sister was alive. Nettie also serves as Celie's only link to her children. Nettie gives Celie pride in her children who were intelligent and

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prosperous in Africa, which gives Celie newfound confidence. All her life, Nettie was the one who always supported and loved Celie but when Celie wasn't receiving her letters, she looked to Sophia for inspiration.

Sophia is a strong woman who at first intimidated Celie but after getting to know each other they become friends and are there support each other in the course of the abuse they each suffer through. Sophia's size and attitude came as a shock to Celie when Mr. \_\_\_\_'s son Harpo brings her to the house for his father to meet. She does not let Harpo's father talk down to her, and talking...